

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| APPLICANT: | Christian Knöpfle et al. | EXAMINER: Philogene, Pedro |
| SERIAL NO.: | 09/921,233 | GROUP ART UNIT: 3733 |
| FILED: | August 1, 2001 | ATTY. DOCK. NO.: 60,500-072 |
| FOR: | SELF-RETAINING IMPLANT AND A DEVICE FOR SECURING THE IMPLANT | |

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER 37 CFR §1.114**

ATTENTION: MAILSTOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (Appeal No. 2008-4990) decided November 3, 2008, please amend the specification and claims as follows and consider the accompanying remarks. This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR §1.114 and associated fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e). This Amendment has been prepared in accordance with the amendment format of 37 CFR §1.121 to place the application in condition for allowance.